METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR NOVEMBER 1990 JANUARY 1991

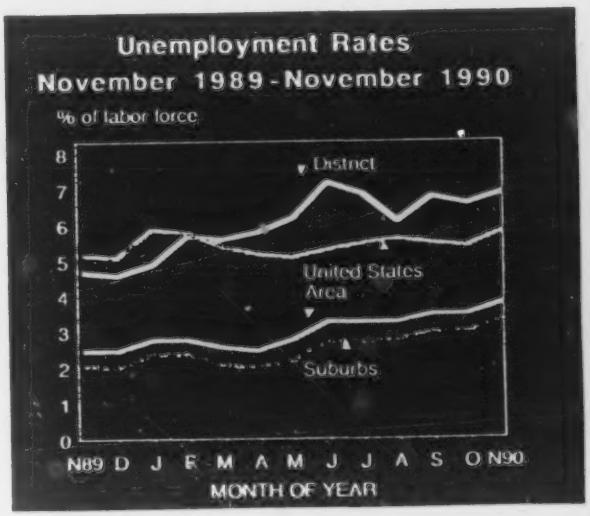
Suburban Jobs Decline Over The Year

D.C. Unemployment Rate 6.9% In November

Labor Force

During November, unemployment rates for the Area, the District and the suburbs each increased by three-tenths of a percentage point. The increases pushed the Area's rate up to 3.8 percent, the District's rate to 6.9 percent and the suburban rate to 3.3 percent. The Area's jobless rate represents the highest for November since the 4.5 percent recorded in November 1983. It also marks the sixth consecutive month that the Area's rate has been above 3 percent.

The unadjusted November rate for all civilian workers in the United States was 5.8 percent, up from 5.4 percent in October. November marked the tenth consecutive month the District's rate has been above the nation's.



The District

In the District, the labor market changes between October and November were relatively small, however, they followed seasonal patterns. The labor force declined by 1,100, employment declined by 1,800 and the level of unemployment rose by 700. These market interactions edged the rate up 0.3 tenths of a percent. This is, however not an overly large increase for November.

The impact of recent declines in the Area's economy as they relate to the District's labor supply are clearly visible in the over-the-year measurements. In November 1989, the District's unemployment rate was 4.7 percent, one of the lowest historical rates for the month. This November's rate was 6.9 percent, representing a significant yearly increase of 2.2 percentage points. The change was the largest yearly increase in the November unemployment rate since 1982, a

Continued on page 3

Government of the District of Columbia
Sharon Pratt Dixon, Mayor

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METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

THE D.C. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

DATA FOR NOVEMBER 1990 — JANUARY 1991

Contents

Labor Force
- *District* 1
- *Area & Suburbs* 3
- *Characteristics of UI Applicants* 5

Job Growth
- *District* 5
- *Suburbs* 6
- *Area* 6
- *Growth Rates* 9

Unemployment Rates
- *Metropolitan Areas* 11
- *States* 12
- *Selected Cities* 12

Departments
- *Unemployment Insurance Activities* 14
- *Consumer Price Index* 16
- *Hours & Earnings* 18

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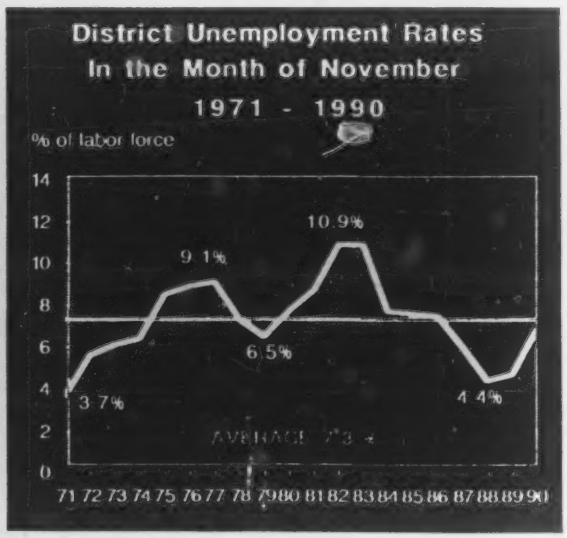
Inquiries and requests for labor market information may be obtained by writing to the above address, or by calling (202) 639-1641 or 639-1642.

Continued from page 1

period that marked the beginning of a national economic recession.

Over the past year, the size of the City's labor force contracted by over 18,000 workers, or nearly 6 percent. More significantly, the number of residents holding jobs fell by 23,800, or 8 percent. Joblessness rose by 5,400 or nearly 37 percent. Both the magnitude and direction of these changes mirror similar labor market changes which last occurred in the District during the recessions of the early 1980's. Still, the unemployment rate at 6.9 percent is below the long-term average of 7.3 percent for November. It is also significantly below the November rates during the last recession of 8.7 percent in November 1981 and the record November highs of 10.9 percent recorded in both November of 1982 and 1983. During these past recessions, the November unemployment levels measured between 33,000-34,000 jobless residents or about 14,000 more than are currently on unemployment rolls.



The Area & Suburbs

As in the District, the November supply of suburban workers declined by 21,800 or 1.1 percent and the employment levels contracted by 27,000 or 1.4 percent. The net result of the declines in the suburban labor force and jobholders was a 5,000, or an 8 percent monthly increase in the level of unemployment, bringing the number of jobless suburbanites to 62,700.

Compared to November a year earlier, the current pool of unemployed suburbanites is substantially larger than last year. **Over the year, unemployment among suburbanites grew by 23,500 workers, an increase of 60 percent.** During the past year, the growth in the suburban labor supply was nominal, only 1,100 in a labor force of 1.9 million. Since the suburbs did not add a large number of new workers, the increase in unemployment appears to be almost exclusively comprised of the 22,500 suburban workers who lost jobs. As a result of these changes, the suburban jobless rate rose a significant 1.2 percentage points over the past 12 months.

When November changes in the District and the suburbs were combined, the Washington Area's unemployment rate increased three-tenths of a point in November. The increase is principally the result of a monthly decline of 28,800 in the number of Area residents holding jobs. The Area's

Continued on page 4

Unemployment Rates in the Washington, D.C., MSA by City and County

	Nov.a/ 1990	Oct.b/ 1990	Nov.b/ 1989
1. District of Columbia	**6.9**	**6.6**	**4.7**
2. Frederick County	6.0	4.8	2.0
3. Calvert County	5.3	4.4	2.6
4. Stafford County	5.1	3.5	2.1
5. Prince Georges Cty.	4.4	4.1	2.7
6. Manassas City	4.1	2.6	1.1
7. Charles County	4.0	3.3	2.1
8. Prince William Cty.	3.2	2.6	1.9
9. Montgomery County	3.1	2.8	2.1
10. Alexandria City	2.9	3.1	2.2
11. Manassas Park City	2.9	1.9	1.5
12. Arlington County	2.6	2.4	1.9
13. Fairfax County	2.3	2.2	1.7
14. Loudoun County	2.2	1.9	1.6
15. Falls Church City	2.0	1.7	1.8
16. Fairfax City	1.8	1.5	1.8

a/ Preliminary. b/ Revised.

SOURCE: The Department of Employment Services, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development and the Virginia Employment Commission.

Continued from page 3

labor supply also declined by 22,900 in November, but this decline was smaller than the employment decline. As a result, the Area's unemployment rolls grew over the month by 5,700 workers. Suburbanites accounted for approximately 95 percent of the monthly decrease in the Area's labor force, as well as, 94 percent of the workers losing their jobs. Similarly, suburbanites comprised 88 percent of the 5,700 monthly increase in the Area's unemployment roll.

Over the past year (November 1989 to November 1990), the increase in Area joblessness was significant and reflects large losses in jobs held by Area residents. Examining the Area's unemployment, the ledger shows the number of Area residents experiencing unemployment increased by 28,900 over the year. **This represents a yearly increase in the Area's unemployment of nearly 54 percent. Over 80 percent of the increase represents unemployed workers who live in the suburbs.**

Over the year, the number of Area residents on employer payrolls declined by 46,300, or by 2.1 percent. The decline in employment was fairly evenly distributed among both District residents and suburbanites. Most of the decline resulted in an expansion in the unemployment rolls, but some workers simply left the labor force. Virtually all of the 17,300-person drop in the labor force occurred in the District. On the other hand, there virtually was no growth in the suburban labor force during the past 12 months. This explains why Area unemployment rates are remaining relatively low despite the rapid contraction in Area jobs.

The current depressed economic activity in the Washington Area is resulting in a declining labor force with falling levels of employment and rising levels of unemployment. Unlike in past recessions, the labor market impact is visible both in the District and the suburbs. These labor market trends should continue for at least the next several months. The next important measurements probably will occur in late spring when the local economy traditionally produces a significant employment expansion.

Employment Status for the Civilian Population
District of Columbia, Suburban Ring, and the Washington, D.C. MSA
November 1990[a/]

	Nov.[b/] 1990	Oct.[c/] 1990	Nov.[d/] 1989	Oct.[d/] 1989	Net Change from Oct. 1990	Net Change from Nov. 1989
Washington, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	293,100	294,200	311,500	314,200	-1,100	-18,400
Total Employed	273,000	274,800	296,800	300,400	-1,800	-23,800
Total Unemployed	20,100	19,400	14,700	13,800	700	5,400
Unemployment Rate[e/]	6.9	6.6	4.7	4.4	0.3	2.2
Suburban Ring						
Civilian Labor Force	1,905,000	1,926,800	1,903,900	1,898,300	-21,800	1,100
Total Employed	1,842,200	1,869,200	1,864,700	1,854,800	-27,000	-22,500
Total Unemployed	62,700	57,700	39,200	43,500	5,000	23,500
Unemployment Rate[e/]	3.3	3.0	2.1	2.3	0.3	1.2
Washington, D.C. MSA						
Civilian Labor Force	2,198,100	2,221,000	2,215,400	2,212,500	-22,900	-17,300
Total Employed	2,115,200	2,144,000	2,161,500	2,155,200	-28,800	-46,300
Total Unemployed	82,800	77,100	53,900	57,300	5,700	28,900
Unemployment Rate[e/]	3.8	3.5	2.4	2.6	0.3	1.4

a/ Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. Detail may not add to the totals due to independent rounding. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions. e/ Seasonally unadjusted.

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia, the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, Frederick, and Calvert.

Labor Force Distribution
Washington Metropolitan Area
November 1990 & November 1989
(percent)

	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed
		NOVEMBER 1990	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	13.3	12.9	24.3
Suburbs	86.7	87.1	75.7
		NOVEMBER 1989	
Area	100.0	100.0	100.0
District	14.1	13.7	27.3
Suburbs	85.9	86.3	72.7

Job Growth

The District

The number of jobs in the District increased by 1,100 for a gain of 0.2 percent between October and November. The private sector was responsible for the growth with primarily seasonal gains in Services (700 jobs) and Trade (600 jobs).

The public sector grew by 100 jobs with primarily seasonal gains in State and Local Government (700 jobs) partially offset by a decrease in Federal Government (600 jobs).

Over the year (November 1989 to November 1990), the number of District jobs declined 0.8 percent for a loss of 5,600 jobs. **The private sector decreased at a rate of 1.3 percent for a loss of 5,500 jobs.** The primary job loser, Trade, accounted for 65 percent of the private sector decrease with a loss of 3,600 jobs. The substantial decline in Trade reflects both a lower level of seasonal hiring this year and the recent closing of several important retail establishments. Significant private sector losses also occurred in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (800 jobs), Construction (500 jobs) and Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (500 jobs).

The public sector declined by 100 jobs with a loss in Federal Government (1,800 jobs) partially offset by a gain in State and Local Government (1,700 jobs).

Continued on page 6

Characteristics of the Insured Unemployed

The number of individuals receiving unemployment insurance (UI) benefits in the District of Columbia totaled 7,177 in November 1990 down 3,946 claimants from October, and down 1,498 from November 1989. In November 1990, 54 percent of all UI claimants were males. Occupationally, clerical and sales, and professional, technical and managerial workers each accounted for 26 percent of the total workers. Service workers followed with 20 percent, structural workers 16 percent, miscellaneous workers 6 percent and the remaining 6 percent distributed between machine trade workers, bench workers, processing workers and farming, fishery, forestry and related occupational workers.

The median duration of the current spell of insured unemployment was 10.0 weeks for all claimants in November. Over the month, the duration for males rose from 9.5 weeks to 9.7 weeks. For females, the duration also rose from 9.8 weeks to 10.3 weeks. In November 1989, the average duration was 10.0 weeks for males and 10.3 for females.

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Continued from page 5

The Suburbs

The number of suburban jobs increased 0.1 percent for a gain of 1,000 jobs between October and November. The private sector was primarily responsible for the growth with seasonal gains in Trade (5,800 jobs) partially offset by declines in Construction (4,500 jobs) and Services (800 jobs). The Maryland suburbs accounted for 55 percent of the Trade growth while the Virginia suburbs were responsible for 51 percent of the loss in Construction and all of the decline in Services.

The public sector increased by 400 jobs with an increase in State and Local Government (1,100 jobs) partially offset by a decline in Federal Government (700 jobs). The Virginia suburbs accounted for 55 percent of the growth in State and Local Government while the loss in Federal Government was equally distributed between the two suburban areas.

Over the year (November 1989 to November 1990), suburban jobs declined at a rate of 0.6 percent for a loss of 9,200 jobs. **The Maryland suburbs grew at a rate of 0.2 percent while the Virginia suburbs decreased at a rate of 1.4 percent.**

The private sector, declining at a rate of 0.6 percent, accounted for the loss in suburban jobs with growth in the service-producing sector (5,100 jobs) offset by a decline in the goods-producing sector (20,300 jobs). Job losses were primarily concentrated in Construction (17,100 jobs) and Manufacturing (3,200 jobs) while the primary job gainers were Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities (2,300 jobs) and Trade (2,200 jobs). Seventy-eight percent of the Construction loss and two-thirds of the growth in the latter two industries occurred in the Virginia suburbs while the Maryland suburbs accounted for 61 percent of the loss in Manufacturing. The Virginia suburbs were also responsible for all of the growth in Services (1,400 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.9 percent with growth in State and Local Government (8,600 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (2,600 jobs). Eighty-seven percent of the growth in government occurred in the Maryland suburbs.

The Area

The Washington Metropolitan Area gained 2,100 jobs between October and November for an increase of 0.1 percent. The private sector was responsible for the growth with a seasonal gain in Trade (6,400 jobs) partially offset by losses primarily in Construction (4,600 jobs).

The public sector increased by 500 jobs with gains in State and Local Government (1,800 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (1,300 jobs).

Over the year (November 1989 to November 1990), the Area declined at a rate of 0.7 percent for a loss of 14,800 jobs. **The private sector, declining at a rate of 1.2 percent for a loss of 20,700 jobs, was responsible for the Area job loss.** Job losses were concentrated in Construc-

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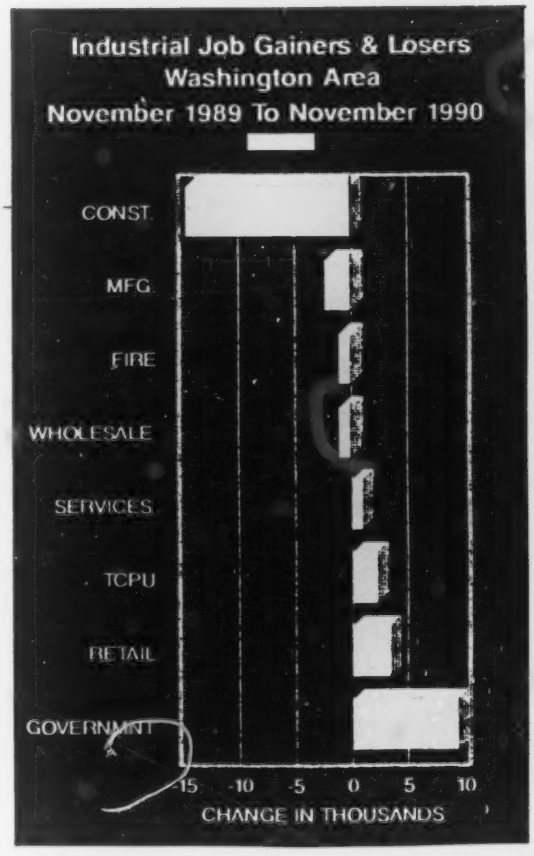

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tion (17,600 jobs), Manufacturing (3,100 jobs), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (1,600 jobs) and Trade (1,400 jobs) while job growth occurred in Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (1,800 jobs) and Services (1,200 jobs).

The public sector grew at a rate of 1.0 percent with gains in State and Local Government (10,300 jobs) partially offset by a loss in Federal Government (4,400 jobs).

Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a/]
(in thousands)

	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
INDUSTRY	Nov.[b/] 1990	Oct.[c/] 1990	Nov.[d/] 1989	Nov.[b/] 1990	Oct.[c/] 1990	Nov.[d/] 1989
TOTAL	**683.8**	**682.7**	**689.4**	**2,250.2**	**2,248.1**	**2,265.0**
Total Private Sector	**408.3**	**407.3**	**413.8**	**1,652.9**	**1,651.3**	**1,673.6**
Total Government	**275.5**	**275.4**	**275.6**	**597.3**	**596.8**	**591.4**
Total Goods Producing	**30.4**	**30.5**	**30.8**	**220.5**	**225.8**	**241.2**
Manufacturing	**16.1**	**16.1**	**16.0**	**86.9**	**87.6**	**90.0**
Total Durables	2.4	2.4	2.2	41.1	41.4	43.7
Stone, Clay, Glass Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.0	3.1	3.4
Electronic & Electric Equip.	N/A	N/A	N/A	16.9	17.0	17.3
All Other Durable	N/A	N/A	N/A	21.2	21.3	23.0
Total Non-Durable	13.7	13.7	13.8	45.8	46.2	46.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.3	0.3	0.3	4.7	4.7	4.8
Printing & Publishing	13.0	13.0	13.1	35.3	35.6	35.6
All Other Non-Durable	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.8	5.9	5.9
Mining	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**	**1.1**
Construction	**14.2**	**14.3**	**14.7**	**132.5**	**137.1**	**150.1**
Total Service Producing	**653.4**	**652.2**	**658.6**	**2029.7**	**2022.3**	**2023.8**
Transportation, Communications & Public Utilities	**24.4**	**24.4**	**24.9**	**113.8**	**113.0**	**112.0**
All Transportation	9.5	9.6	9.8	59.4	58.9	57.1
Railroads	4.2	4.2	4.1	5.3	5.3	5.3
Transportation ex. Railroad	5.3	5.4	5.7	54.1	53.6	51.8
Communications & Public Utilities	14.9	14.8	15.1	54.4	54.1	54.9
Trade	**62.3**	**61.7**	**65.9**	**446.5**	**440.1**	**447.9**
Wholesale	8.1	8.2	8.3	78.1	77.8	78.7
Retail	54.2	53.5	57.6	368.4	362.3	369.2
General Merchandise	N/A	N/A	N/A	42.5	39.6	44.3
Food Stores	N/A	N/A	N/A	54.5	53.6	51.3
Automotive	N/A	N/A	N/A	37.7	38.1	38.7
Apparel & Accessories	N/A	N/A	N/A	27.9	26.6	29.4
Eating & Drinking Places	27.3	27.1	29.1	116.4	116.4	116.8
All Other Retail	26.9	26.4	28.5	89.4	88.0	88.7

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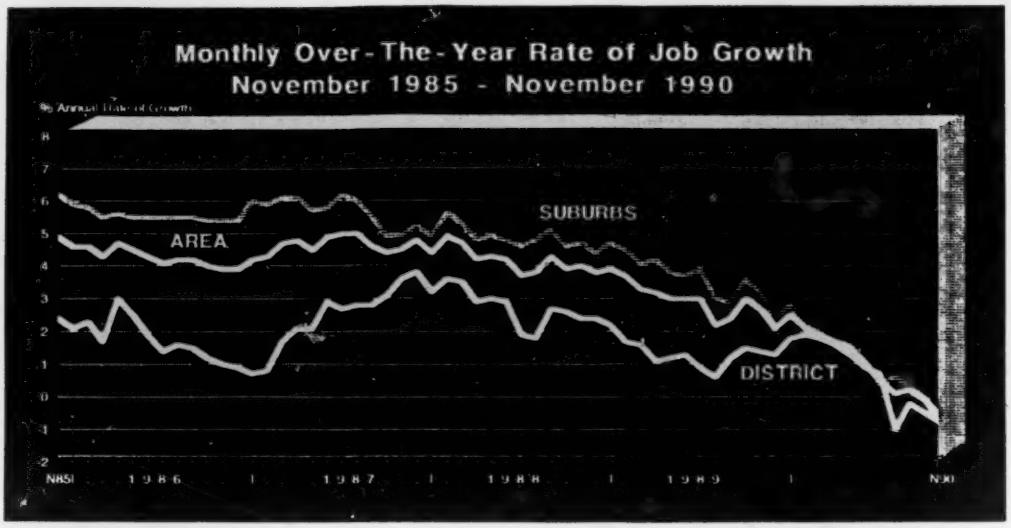
Wage and Salary Employment by Industry and Place of Work[a/]
(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	District of Columbia			Metropolitan Area		
	Nov.[b/] 1990	Oct.[c/] 1990	Nov.[d/] 1989	Nov.[b/] 1990	Oct.[c/] 1990	Nov.[d/] 1989
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	**32.6**	**32.8**	**33.4**	**129.4**	**129.6**	**131.0**
Finance	15.4	15.4	15.9	60.2	60.1	60.9
Depository Institutions	8.4	8.4	9.2	39.1	39.0	39.7
Other Finance	7.0	7.0	6.7	21.1	21.1	21.2
Insurance	7.5	7.4	7.7	26.8	26.8	26.9
Real Estate	9.7	10.0	9.8	42.4	42.7	43.2
Services	**258.6**	**257.9**	**258.8**	**742.7**	**742.8**	**741.5**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	17.2	17.4	17.0	37.5	37.7	37.0
Personal Services	3.2	3.3	3.6	22.7	22.8	22.6
Business Services	38.4	39.0	41.5	179.4	180.5	182.5
Services to Buildings	14.4	14.6	15.7	N/A	N/A	N/A
Personnel Supply	7.7	8.0	9.5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Computer & Data Process	6.0	6.1	6.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Business Services	10.3	10.3	10.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health Services	37.1	36.9	36.8	114.9	114.4	112.4
Legal Services	30.6	30.3	29.9	41.6	41.2	40.6
Educational Services	32.8	31.7	30.3	46.7	45.4	44.2
Social Services	12.4	12.3	12.3	34.4	34.3	33.8
Membership Organizations	33.8	33.8	32.9	60.2	60.1	58.7
Engineering/Management Ser.	43.0	43.2	44.0	142.6	142.7	146.2
All Other Services	10.1	10.0	10.5	62.7	63.7	63.5
Government	**275.5**	**275.4**	**275.6**	**597.3**	**596.8**	**591.4**
Federal Government	218.3	218.9	220.1	361.6	362.9	366.0
State & Local Government	57.2	56.5	55.5	235.7	233.9	225.4
State Government	52.4	51.7	50.7	83.9	83.2	81.7
Local Government	N/A	N/A	N/A	151.8	150.7	143.7
Public Transportation	4.8	4.8	4.8	N/A	N/A	N/A

a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding. Data subject to annual benchmark revisions. b/ Preliminary. c/ Revised. d/ Data reflects benchmark revisions.

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, the Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Area Job Growth Rates

Over the past five years (November 1985 to November 1990), the Washington Area has created new jobs at a rate of 3.5 percent. Measured by monthly over-the-year changes, however, the rate of growth has declined from a peak of 5.2 percent in November of 1985 to a net loss of seven-tenths of a percent in November of 1990. **This was the second consecutive month that the Washington Area recorded an over-the-year job loss.** This year's over-the-year loss was down sharply from a 2.7 percent increase reported in October 1989.

During November, suburban over-the-year job growth turned negative for the first time since August 1982, a month during the national recession of the early 1980's. This negative suburban number was down significantly from the yearly growth of 3.2 percent reported in November 1989. In the District, the number of jobs declined over the year by eight-tenths of a percentage point. The loss of District jobs this year compares to a growth of 1.4 percent a year ago.

In absolute terms, job creation in the Area has declined from a gain of 95,900 new jobs between November 1984 and November 1985, to a loss of 14,800 jobs between November 1989 and this past November. Over the past year, 9,200 jobs were lost by the Suburban economy, while the District lost 5,600 jobs. **The U.S. economy in November produced a very small number of new jobs compared to the net job losses of the Washington Area (an 0.8 percent increase in the U.S. economy vs. the local loss of 0.7 percent).** November marked the tenth consecutive month in which the rate of local job creation was below the rate for all of the United States. Thus, in the downside of the current business cycle, job losses in the Washington Area economy are preceding declines in the national economy.

NOTE: It should be recognized that the monthly estimates of jobs are subject to annual benchmark revisions. These revisions can be plus or minus one percent or more, a range well within the current measurements of change.

Profile of Job Growth Rates
November 1985 to November 1990

The Area	
Average 60 months	3.5%
High, November 1985	5.2%
Low, November 1990	-0.7%
1-year ago	2.7%
Last month	-0.1%
Current month	-0.7%
The Suburbs	
Average 60 months	4.3%
High, November 1985	6.8%
Low, November 1990	-0.6%
1-year ago	3.2%
Last month	0.0%
Current month	-0.6%
The District	
Average 60 months	1.8%
High, December 1987	3.8%
Low, August 1990	-1.0%
1-year ago	1.4%
Last month	-0.5%
Current month	-0.8%

Note: Data reflects benchmark revisions for 1988-1989.

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Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Areas

In October 1990, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 269 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The Washington Area's October jobless rate was down 0.1 percentage point to 3.4 percent. This was the twenty-ninth lowest jobless rate of the 269 areas reporting. A year ago, the Washington Area rate was 2.6 percent.

Comparing the Washington Area with other large metropolitan areas nationwide, the Washington Area's rate at 3.4 percent was the second lowest of all the major metropolitan areas.

The Baltimore Area, only 35 miles north of Washington, reported no change in their October jobless rate at 4.9 percent. The Baltimore rate has increased three of the last five months. A year ago, the Baltimore rate was 3.5 percent, up 1.4 percentage points.

The Richmond-Petersburg Area, 110 miles to the south of Washington, recorded a 0.6 percentage point decrease in its October jobless rate, down from 4.3 percent to 3.7 percent. A year ago, the rate was 4.1 percent.

In addition to the Washington, D.C. Area, jobless rates between 3.0 percent and 3.9 percent were reported in 8 other selected metropolitan areas, the lowest being recorded in San Francisco 3.3 percent.

There were 14 large metropolitan areas with rates between 4.0 and 4.9 percent. There were 13 large metropolitan areas with rates between 5.0 and 5.9 percent, and 4 large metropolitan areas with rates between 6.0 and 6.9 percent. There were 3 areas with rates 7 percent or above with the largest posted by Detroit at 7.2 percent.

Of the 269 metropolitan areas for which October data are available, 50 had over-the-year increases of 1 percentage point or more in their unemployment rate, while 29 had decreases of that magnitude. A total of 57 areas had October 1990 rates below 4 percent, while 39 had rates of 7 percent or higher.

Unemployment Rates in Selected Statistical Areas

MSA	October 1990*	October 1989
1. San Francisco, CA	3.3	2.9
2. Washington, D.C.	**3.4**	**2.6**
3. Seattle, WA	3.5	4.3
4. Milwaukee, WI	3.5	3.8
5. Phoenix, AR	3.7	4.0
6. Richmond-Petersburg, VA	3.7	4.1
7. Denver, CO	3.8	4.5
8. Salt Lake City, UT	3.8	3.8
9. Louisville, KY	3.8	4.4
10. Oakland, CA	4.0	3.7
11. Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	4.1	3.6
12. Cincinnati, OH	4.2	4.5
13. Nashville, TN	4.2	3.7
14. Buffalo, NY	4.3	4.9
15. Columbus, OH	4.5	4.8
16. Indianapolis, IN	4.6	4.9
17. Portland, OR	4.6	4.7
18. Sacramento, CA	4.6	4.3
19. Dallas, TX	4.6	5.1
20. Memphis, TN	4.7	4.4
21. San Diego, CA	4.7	3.8
22. Houston, TX	4.7	5.3
23. Baltimore, MD	4.9	3.5
24. Cleveland, OH	5.0	5.0
25. Kansas City, MO	5.0	4.6
26. Jackson, MS	5.0	4.7
27. Pittsburgh, PA	5.1	4.2
28. Boston, MA	5.2	3.5
29. Philadelphia, PA	5.3	3.9
30. Gary, IN	5.4	5.7
31. Atlanta, GA	5.4	5.4
32. Oklahoma, City, OK	5.5	4.2
33. Dayton, OH	5.7	6.2
34. Chicago, IL	5.7	6.2
35. Newark, NJ	5.8	5.2
36. Birmingham, AL	5.9	5.3
37. St. Louis, MO	6.2	5.5
38. Los Angeles, CA	6.2	4.2
39. New Orleans, LA	6.7	6.4
40. Miami, FL	6.9	6.5
41. Montgomery, AL	7.0	5.9
42. New York, NY	7.0	5.1
43. Detroit, MI	7.2	8.0

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

States

When the District of Columbia (with an October preliminary unemployment rate of 6.6 percent) was ranked with the 50 States, the District had the fourth highest jobless rate in the Country. This was two notches above September's standing. Virginia's rate at 4.2 percent was down 0.1 percentage point from September. Maryland's rate at 4.5 percent was unchanged from September. Virginia and Maryland have two of the fifteen lowest jobless rates among the 51 jurisdictions. This month, Maryland and Virginia ranked thirty-seventh and forty-third, respectively, in the standings. A year ago, Maryland's rate was 3.3 percent, while Virginia's rate was unchanged over the year at 4.2 percent.

Ten states and the District of Columbia reported October 1989-90 increases in their unemployment rate of 1 percentage point or more. The largest increase was in the District of Columbia (2.2 points) followed by Massachusetts (1.9 points), Delaware (1.8 points) and Pennsylvania (1.5 points). West Virginia was the only state with an unemployment rate decline of more than 1 percentage point.

Six states had October unemployment rates below 4 percent, with Nebraska (2.0 percent) and Hawaii (2.8 percent) having the lowest rates. In contrast, unemployment rates were higher than 7 percent in three states—West Virginia (8.1 percent), Alabama (7.3 percent) and Michigan (7.2 percent).

Cities

In comparison with the 25 selected central cities, the District of Columbia (with an October preliminary rate of 6.6 percent) had the twelfth lowest jobless rate. This was the same position held last month. In October, the average unemployment rate of the 26 cities was the same as September, 7.0 percent. A year ago, the average rate was 0.3 percentage point lower at 6.7 percent.

Nine cities reported jobless rates at or below 6 percent, with the lowest posted in San Francisco at 3.9 percent, followed by Salt Lake City at 4.1 percent. Milwaukee, Columbus and Pittsburgh reported jobless rates of 4.6 percent, 4.8 percent and 4.9 percent, respectively.

Baltimore's rate at 7.5 percent was unchanged from September. Baltimore held the sixteenth position among the 26 selected cities. The October 1990 rate was 1.9 percentage points higher than the October 1989 rate.

For the second consecutive month, Gary was not in the double digit column. However, Gary's October jobless rate rose 0.2 percentage point to 9.5 percent. This is 0.4 percentage point lower than the 9.9 percent posted in October 1989.

This was the second consecutive month that Newark was in the double digit column. Newark's jobless rate was the second highest among the 26 cities, rising 0.5 percentage point over the month to 10.9 percent. Last October, Newark's rate was 10.0 percent.

Detroit's jobless rate rose 0.8 percentage points over the month to 11.0 percent. Detroit held the twenty-fifth position in September but reclaimed the twenty-sixth position this month. However, the 11.0 percent is 1.3 percent lower than the 12.3 percent recorded a year ago.

Of the 26 selected central cities, twelve cities reported decreases in joblessness while thirteen cities reported increases in joblessness over the year. The largest decreases were reported by Dayton and Detroit, 1.4 and 1.3 percentage points, respectively. The largest increase in joblessness was reported by New York, 2.3 percentage points. **The District of Columbia followed with a 2.2 percentage point increase.** Los Angeles reported a 2.1 percentage point rise in joblessness. The jobless rate in Cleveland was unchanged over the year at 8.0 percent.

Unemployment rates by state, October 1990

Unemployment Rates in Selected Cities

	October 1990*	October 1989
1. San Francisco, CA	3.9	3.6
2. Salt Lake City, UT	4.1	4.0
3. Milwaukee, WI	4.6	5.1
4. Columbus, OH	4.8	5.2
5. Pittsburgh, PA	4.9	4.1
6. Houston, TX	5.1	5.8
7. Cincinnati, OH	5.4	5.8
8. Dallas, TX	5.5	5.9
9. Boston, MA	5.8	4.2
10. Buffalo, NY	6.2	7.0
11. New Orleans, LA	6.3	6.9
12. District of Columbia	**6.6**	**4.4**
13. Los Angeles, CA	6.9	4.8
14. Philadelphia, PA	7.3	5.0
15. Chicago,.IL	7.4	8.3
16. Baltimore, MD	7.5	5.6
17. New York, NY	7.7	5.4
18. Atlanta, GA	7.7	8.2
19. Cleveland, OH	8.0	8.0
20. Dayton, OH	8.4	9.8
21. Birmingham, AL	8.4	7.1
22. Miami, FL	8.5	8.0
23. St. Louis, MO	9.1	8.8
24. Gary, IN	9.5	9.9
25. Newark, NJ	10.9	10.0
26. Detroit, MI	11.0	12.3

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

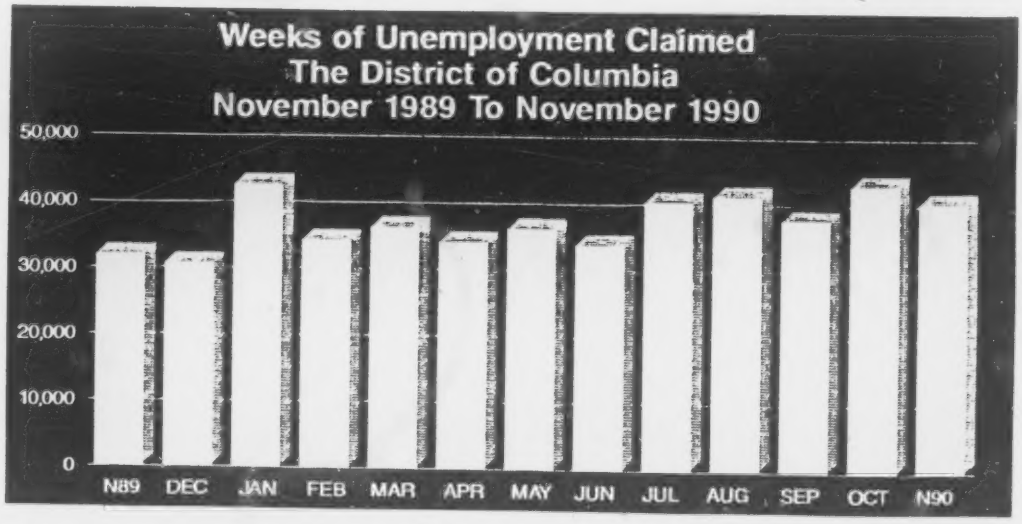
Unemployment Insurance Activities November 1990

During November 1990 there were 3,850 new claims for Unemployment Insurance benefits by workers in the District of Columbia who lost their jobs through no fault of their own. This number was 2 percent lower than October. However, the drop in claims from last month was expected to be more than 2 percent based on prior years of experience. October was somewhat seasonally high because of the change-of-base period surge in claimants.

However, there was an added factor this October—the economic slowdown of 1990. The downturn contributed to the unusually high claimsload for this October, and also to November and other months. The normal November decrease—in the 10 to 12 percent range—was offset as a result. The November claimsload this year is 46 percent above the same time last year. The average monthly claims level through November was 3,381. November was 14 percent higher than the average. The average for the two months of the fourth quarter was 3,891 compared to 2,998 for the second quarter. This indicates that the latter part of the year is the point at which the brunt of the downturn is being felt by the Unemployment Compensation System.

The idle weeks compensated dropped 6 percent from last month, but as did the initial claims, rose substantially (27 percent) above November last year. Benefit outlay principally mirrored the weeks compensated in relative movements. Outlay totalled $8.7 million in November.

The benefit outlay for January-November 1990 was $86.0 million—compensation for 415,320 idle weeks. This compares to $73.9 million and 373,960 weeks for the same period in 1989. The 11 month experience of outlay and compensated weeks this year has already eclipsed the total for all of 1989.



Selected Unemployment Insurance Benefit Statistics
(Regular Programs)
District of Columbia
November 1990

	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	% Change From Oct. 1990	% Change From Nov. 1989
State UI Program[a/]					
Initial Claims Taken	3,756	3,756	2,520	+0.0	+49.0
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	37,990	40,651	29,591	-6.5	+28.4
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	38,575	41,453	29,764	-6.9	+29.6
Total Benefits Paid	$8,098,866	$8,755,179	$5,855,500	-7.5	+38.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$209.95	$211.21	$196.73	-0.6	+6.7
Number of First Payments	2,123	2,068	1,372	+2.7	+54.7
Number of Final Payments	904	1,079	822	-16.2	+10.0
Total Beneficiaries	10,871	10,776	7,847	+0.9	+38.5
Federal Program[b/]					
Initial Claims Taken	72	145	81	-50.3	-11.1
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	2,100	2,074	2,136	+1.3	-1.7
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	2,261	2,132	2,301	+6.1	-1.7
Total Benefits Paid	$499,568	$486,339	$516,713	+2.7	-3.3
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$220.95	$228.11	$224.56	-3.1	-1.6
Number of First Payments	121	117	108	+3.4	+12.0
Number of Final Payments	48	56	82	-14.3	-41.5
Total Beneficiaries	557	540	619	+3.1	-10.0
Ex-Servicepersons Program[c/]					
Initial Claims Taken	20	33	27	-39.4	-25.9
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	349	366	293	-4.6	+19.1
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	295	259	226	+13.9	+30.5
Total Benefits Paid	$62,417	$54,434	$48,895	+14.7	+27.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$211.58	$210.17	$216.35	+0.7	-2.2
Number of First Payments	29	27	25	+7.4	+16.0
Number of Final Payments	17	16	16	+6.3	+6.3
Total Beneficiaries	81	78	73	+3.8	+11.0
Total—All Programs					
Initial Claims Taken	3,848	3,934	2,628	-2.2	+46.4
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	40,439	43,091	32,020	-6.2	+26.3
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	41,131	43,844	32,291	-6.2	+27.4
Total Benefits Paid	$8,660,851	$9,295,952	$6,421,108	-6.8	+34.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$210.57	$212.02	$198.85	-0.7	+5.9
Number of First Payments	1,767	2,212	1,505	-20.1	+17.4
Number of Final Payments	969	1,151	920	-15.8	+5.3
Total Beneficiaries	11,509	11,390	8,539	+1.0	+34.8

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).

b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation of Ex-Serviceperson (UCX).

c/ No joint claims.

The Washington, D.C. Area Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area rose 0.3 percent during the 2 months ended in November to a level of 138.4 (1982-84=100). **For the 12-month period ended in November the CPI-U rose 6.1 percent.** The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.2 percent from September to November. The November level of 137.2 (1982-84=100) was 5.9 percent higher than the index in November 1989.

The 0.3 percent increase in the CPI-U from September to November follows an increase of 1.7 percent in the preceding 2-month period. Downturns in the indexes for apparel, housing, food, and entertainment were responsible for the moderation. These declines, however, were more than offset by the large increases in the transportation, medical care, and other goods and services components.

The transportation index—up 3.9 percent from September to November—continued to advance sharply, largely as a result of a run up in prices for motor fuels. Gasoline prices rose 10.6 percent from September to November and accounted for half the advance in the transportation component. Higher costs were also recorded for airline travel, new cars, and automobile insurance. Medical care costs rose 3.6 percent, reflecting an increase of 4.6 percent in medical care services, particularly hospital related services.

The index for other goods and services rose 1.4 percent from September to November. Increased tuition and other school fees and higher costs of school books and supplies accounted for nearly all of the advance.

The index for apparel and upkeep, which had increased 8.9 percent from July to September in response to the introduction of fall and winter merchandise, declined 4.0 percent from September to November, reflecting heavy retailers' discounting.

Housing costs decreased 0.8 percent. The index for household fuels dropped 8.6 percent, as higher fuel oil prices were more than offset by lower charges for electricity and natural gas. Prices for housefurnishings decreased 4.5 percent, reflecting lower prices for textile housefurnishings and furniture and bedding. Partially offsetting those declines was a 0.4 percent increase in shelter costs. Renters' and homeowners' costs rose 0.6 and 0.3 percent, respectively.

Prices for food and beverages declined 0.1 percent. Grocery store food prices dropped 0.6 percent, primarily as a result of a decline in fresh fruit and vegetable prices. Partially offsetting this decline were increases in the indexes for food consumed away from home and alcoholic beverages—up 0.1 and 1.4 percent, respectively

Among other categories of consumer spending, entertainment costs decreased 0.4 percent, following an increase of 1.9 percent from July to September.

Comparing the local CPI-U with the U.S. city average, the first five months of the year saw the prices of goods and services accelerating more rapidly nationally than locally. During the May-to-July period, the prices of goods and services accelerated more rapidly locally than nationally. For the July to September period, the acceleration was just about even. However, during the September-to-November period, the national acceleration more than doubled the local increase. The local index rose 0.3 percent, while the national index rose 0.8 percent. Over the year, the local index rose 6.1 percent and the national index rose 6.3 percent, only 0.2 percent higher nationally.

Over the month, the prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly nationally in four of the seven expenditure categories—food and beverages, housing, apparel and upkeep, and entertainment. On the other hand, prices of goods and services tended to increase more rapidly locally for transportation, medical care and other goods and services. During the September-to-November period, the prices of energy were up 1.3 percent locally compared to a 20.2 percent drop in energy prices nationally.

Washington, D.C.
Area Consumer Price Index
(All Urban Consumers—CPI-U)[a/]

	November 1990	Percent Change 2 months Ago	Percent Change Year Ago
ALL Items			
U.S.	133.8	+0.8	+6.3
Washington Area	138.4	+0.3	+6.1
Expenditure Category			
Food & Beverage	133.8	-0.1	+4.7
Housing	137.7	-0.8	+5.0
Apparel & Upkeep	141.1	-4.0	+1.0
Transportation	127.1	+3.9	+8.6
Medical Care	170.2	+3.6	+13.8
Entertainment	139.0	-0.4	+7.9
Other Goods & Services	170.7	+1.4	+6.7
Special Index:			
Energy[b/]	108.8	+1.3	+15.7

a/ 1982-84=100, except as noted.
b/ June 1978=100.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; table prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Staff.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for November 1990 increased $5.51. Average Weekly Hours remained unchanged, while Average Hourly Earnings rose 13 cents.

In the Durable Goods Sector, Stone, Clay and Glass Products' Weekly Earnings and Weekly Hours decreased by $7.62 and 1.5 hours, respectively. The decrease was attributable to less business. On the other hand, Hourly Earnings increased 22 cents due to overtime.

In the Non-Durable Goods Sector, increases in Food and Kindred Products reflected overtime. As a result, Weekly Earnings rose $20.56. Weekly Hours rose 1 hour and Hourly Earnings increased 23 cents.

Earnings of Production Workers in Manufacturing
Washington Metropolitan Area
November 1990

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989
Total Manufacturing	501.96	496.83	489.24	39.4	39.4	40.3	12.74	12.61	12.14
Durable Goods	529.61	524.10	502.98	42.2	42.3	43.1	12.55	12.39	11.67
Stone Clay & Glass Products	539.24	546.86	528.61	45.2	46.7	48.9	11.93	11.71	10.81
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	491.56	487.75	448.38	41.1	41.3	42.3	11.96	11.81	10.60
Other Durable Goods	539.25	531.26	514.46	41.9	41.7	42.1	12.87	12.74	12.22
Non-Durable Goods	480.25	473.97	476.78	37.2	37.0	37.9	12.91	12.81	12.58
Food & Kindred Products	468.66	448.10	453.88	42.8	41.8	42.9	10.95	10.72	10.58
Printing & Publishing	505.05	499.47	501.84	35.0	35.1	36.0	14.43	14.23	13.94
Other Non-Durable Goods	400.90	395.78	396.95	42.2	41.4	42.5	9.50	9.56	9.34

Total Production Workers	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989
	38,900	39,700	41,600

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